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FREE

Where SHOULD Those Power Plants Go?

By John Borg

At the conclusion of four public workshops organized by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission to push its plan to site three combustion turbine power plants somewhere along the Potrero waterfront, neighbors from throughout District 10 are complaining that they haven't yet received the full story on possible impacts to a community that already bears a disproportionate share of the city's industrial and power plant pollution.

During the workshops, SFPUC officials outlined a range of projected benefits to the plan — including improving electric reliability citywide and ensuring closure of part of PG&E's aging Hunters Point Power Plant. While some citizens have remained neutral or supported the proposal, there was spirited debate and resistance from many southeast side residents who attended the final two workshops in Bayview-Hunters

Point and the Potrero.

Some neighbors cited health concerns and called for immediate clean up of cumulative air pollution impacts in the community. Others complained about an unfair public process demonstrated by the SFPUC's rapid project siting timeline, biased and tightly controlled workshop agendas, overly optimistic air quality data, and a lack of any specific mitigation plans or strategies for improving local air quality.

The September 9 Hunters Point workshop at the Southeast Community Center featured so much lively public comment that it ran more than an hour over schedule. Not a single resident spoke in favor of the plan, even though it would help close the oldest and dirtiest part of the Hunters Point Power Plant.

At one point, the September 20 Potrero workshop at the California College of Arts and Crafts became so disrupted by

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Mayoral Candidates Respond to SFPUC Plan To Site New Power Plants on the SE Waterfront

The Potrero View contacted all the major mayoral candidates for their positions on the San Francisco Public Utility Commission's plan to secure a site for three combustion turbine power plants along the Potrero waterfront within the next month or so. The city acquired a total of four natural gas-fired units in a December 2002 lawsuit settlement with the Williams Energy Company. The units can produce a combined total of about 190 megawatts. A key stipulation of the settlement was that the CTs must be sited by December 2003, or returned. SFPUC officials say the units will improve energy reliability and help

shut-down part of the Hunters Point Power Plant. However, the SFPUC has come under fire for delaying the formal public siting process for months, and for scheduling only three public workshops in southeast San Francisco that critics contend left too many critical questions unanswered. All the major candidates responded with either an interview or prepared statement, except for former Police Chief, Tony Ribeta, whose campaign did not respond. — John Borg

**Angela Alioto**

You live in a beautiful area, but it's been totally abused. All of a sudden the city is pushing a lot of rush jobs before (Mayor) Brown leaves office. This one bothers me more than the others because of potential health and environmental consequences to a community with a long history of being dumped on. We need to do whatever we can to stop any new pollution from being added to that part of town before the mayor's race is decided. The SFPUC is trying to do this fast because they know with me in office they won't get it done. We need time to look at the science of the impacted area, to have expert medical opinions. We can eminently domain what we

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**Tom Ammiano**

Because of existing pollution impacts in the area, I believe siting the CTs anywhere in southeast San Francisco should not happen without a real community process that does more than just lip service. We should be absolutely certain that the CTs are needed and can't be located elsewhere. I don't favor siting the units along the southeast corridor unless and until certain conditions are met. For example, the city should do everything possible to promote renewable energy and energy conservation, particularly reducing peak load demands. The city should determine, through comprehensive analysis,

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**Matt Gonzalez**

When the peaking settlement came through the Board of Supervisors, I took the position that we consider a monetary settlement instead. I felt that if we needed to site these units too quickly, it could result in a rushed and inadequate public process. Supervisor Maxwell saw this as part of a strategy to shut down the Hunters Point Plant and liked that these smaller plants aren't as polluting. I can understand that argument, but now we're putting them in essentially the same area next to an existing dirty power plant. We still face the issue of what neighborhood bears the brunt of fossil fuel power generation. I

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**Susan Leal**

The residents of District 10 should not shoulder the power generation and pollution burden of the entire city. As Mayor, I will work with Supervisor Maxwell, the neighborhoods and the SFPUC to abide by agreed-upon conditions to close the polluting power plant at Hunters Point immediately and reduce the output of the Potrero plant. The residents of District 10 and of the city at large deserve and should expect greater transparency of information, including the results of air quality and health testing, which I will work to ensure. I will also support efforts to obtain additional mitigation measures to offset the effects of local power generation. Cleaner-burning

Continued on Page 12

**Gavin Newsom**

As a city we need to institute a real energy plan that will promote renewable sources, conservation and increase transmission of power into the city. The community outreach and planning process of locating the generators obtained from Williams Energy has been less than ideal. The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission has known, since December of 2002, that it needed to find a location for these generators. While the possible locations are limited, I do not believe a few rushed community meetings are sufficient. Historically affected neighborhoods need to be an integral part of developing San Francisco's energy plans and, if necessary, with the locating of any fossil fuel generation. ■

Editorials: In Our View**NO on Recall!!**

We are opposed to the recall initiative. It is an unnecessary and unjust vehicle for those who want to dump democratically elected officials from office for any number of reasons. And, as the circus-atmosphere of these elections become increasingly difficult to bear, so too are many of us who would prefer serious, and deeply motivated arguments on how we should improve our way of life instead of denigrating anyone who has serious reasons for running for public office.

It's kind of enlightening to see so many "wannabes" who filed for office – but have you read their statements? They run from "sort of" serious to absolutely zany. The few who seem to us to be very serious should be challenged to prove their worth instead of their popularity. For instance, run for a public office at any other time, and run a campaign that reaches into the communities.

We are impressed with Cruz Bustamante whom we've never really known before, but recognize that he has been the twice duly elected Lt. Governor of the State of California.

He understands quite well what our state's needs are, and has formidable proposals and solutions to the problems we face.

If Gov. Davis had become ill or unable to continue to guide the state, Lt. Gov. Bustamante would have legally replaced him, and we would have accepted that step as a logical and legal one.

We urge a NO vote on the recall, and a vote for Cruz Bustamante as the next Governor of California.

No on Prop 54

In a city with the high rate of ethnically diverse population that San Francisco claims, health information that must be gathered and recorded by the medical community is significant in deciding on health care for our citizens.

"Without specific data by race and ethnicity, the ability to understand health disparities, and to develop focused public health interventions that are tailored to and more effective in reaching the targeted populations," will be lost, says John Gressman, President of San Francisco Community Clinic Consortium. The SFCCC represents over 60,000 patients from the city's various ethnic communities, uninsured, and low-income populations. If Prop. 54 is passed it will provide a blow to these very people who urgently require the services of all of the city's health departments. Please remember to vote NO on 54.

No on Prop 53

Proposition 53 is about providing monies for infrastructure improvements. There is no specific spending plan in this Proposition, nor a list of projects that would be funded, or anything special about how the money should be spent. So there hasn't been much in the news about who is for and who is against it. We won't confuse you any further, so suggest that you vote NO on Prop 53.

In Memoriam

John Luscutoff
Lifetime Resident of Potrero Hill
1917 - 2003

In Memoriam

Gregory Edward Hill
Postal Worker at Bryant St. Station
1948 - 2003

We Get Letters

Editor:

I recently moved to Dogpatch from the Sunset District. I love the Dogpatch neighborhood and hanging out on Potrero Hill. But as your September article pointed out, since moving here I have noticed a dramatic difference in air quality between here and the western side of the city. The sunshine on the Potrero side is great, but with all the cars, trucks and heavy industry the air here seems to be a lot dirtier.

I hope the city doesn't add more power plants or air pollution here, unless it cleans up other polluters and closes the existing plant on the Potrero waterfront. I don't want to move back to the foggy side of the city just to breathe cleaner air.

Alan Parella
20th Street



Editor:

I'm writing to let you know of my deep concern regarding the proposal by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission to introduce additional levels of pollution to the Potrero Hill/Bayview-Hunters Point areas.

As most of us are aware, the asthma rates and breast cancer rates in Bayview-Hunters Point are significantly higher than those in other parts of the city and country. However, I would like to point out that on my block (100 block of Missouri) alone, of the six women who live here (from 12-30 years) we have four who have had cancer, three of whom have survived (breast cancer), the other having succumbed to her illness. Of the three children who were born to parents residing on my block in the last 10 years, all three have developed asthma. These are stunning numbers for our one block.

To quote from just two of a plethora of medical articles on the predominant health issue for our area:

"Up to 30 percent of the total student population in Bayview-Hunters Point are fighting asthma. Asthma rates in the predominantly African-American neighborhood are about twice the national average, most likely due to a combination of ethnic, economic and environmental factors." (Stanford Medicine Magazine, Winter 2003)

"In reality, disproportionate death rates and extremely high rates of hospital-

ization for asthma among African-Americans and other low income communities of color are the last signs of a long chain of failures to provide consistent quality medical care, decent housing conditions, clean air, patient, family, community education and adequate income. Unequal social conditions manifest themselves in individual children who embody inequality. . . . It is social factors—not genetics—that explain why children suffer more from asthma on Third Street than on Union Street." (San Francisco Medical Society, www.sfm.org/sfm/sfm1199a.htm)

In my opinion, the SFPUC, our supervisors, and those involved in studying the effects of the proposed peaker plants have not done their due diligence. The siting of the peakers, the legislation to insure the closing down of the Potrero and Hunters Point power plants, and the overall impact of pollutants in our community have not been comprehensively addressed.

We need thorough studies on emission levels throughout all of District 10. We need an absolute and ironclad legal document to insure the closing of the Potrero and Hunters Point power plants. We need to identify possible sites for the peakers other than Potrero Hill (the Presidio? the airport?).

No one neighborhood should shoulder the burden of our city's power needs at the expense of the health of their children. We need the time and resources to fully investigate the proper solution to San Francisco's energy requirements.

Kepa Askenasy
Missouri Street



Editor:

Are they trying to kill off Potrero Hill with asthma? Tiny particle emissions from the city's power plants may very well be the cause of the city's southeast corner having the highest asthma rates.

In addition to residents harmed by the foul air, others will be faced with increased noise levels from the proposed helipad at San Francisco General Hospital. To make matters even more serious, there are 11 homes near the proposed helipad at General Hospital that might be taken by

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Opinion

Energy Plan Needs Help

By Joe Boss

What are the simple facts regarding the city's effort to site three natural gas generating units along the southeastern waterfront near the base of Potrero Hill? The city developed an Energy Plan with the input and consensus of neighborhood people, environmental justice advocates, Department of the Environment, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, and every elected city official. The plan was adopted almost a year ago and implementation began. A key element is to reduce our dependence on fossil fueled energy through conservation and development of a broad array of renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind, and tidal. Within 10 years, 20 percent of our electricity will come from those renewable sources. We have already reduced our energy needs through creative programs from the San Francisco Energy Co-op, installation of large solar energy systems in the city, and aggressive lighting retrofits in our homes and businesses.

We recognize that the obsolete and dirty 210-megawatt Mirant Potrero Power Plant runs almost all the time and must be shut down. We have successfully fought Mirant's proposed 540-megawatt plant that would further poison our environment. We finally need to shut down PG&E's Hunters Point Power Plant, something that has eluded various attempts over the past six years. We will also have to improve and build transmission lines into and within the city.

How do we get there? The first step is the installation of three clean, modern,

and flexible combustion turbines. They are called for in the Energy Plan and represent the first real public power the city has developed since the Hetch Hetchy project almost 100 years ago. They will not run 24 hours a day because they are only needed for high-demand times and they start and stop in about 10 minutes, unlike the big plants that need 24 hours just to come up to power. These new plants WILL shut down Hunters Point and any soot emissions will be mitigated right in our neighborhoods through programs that remove diesel exhaust, road and construction dust, and through other creative means. We have written guarantees for these measures.

But in order to start the process to ensure the Energy Plan can be successful, we need to choose a site. It is like building a house. We know we want a house, but we must first find a lot to build on. Once we have done that, we will get the architects, engineers, and contractors to build it. During that process which, again, begins after a site selection, we will go through a year of Environmental Review that will examine all of the impacts, and answer the big questions like: do we need three; are there other alternatives; what will the noise and visual impacts be; and most importantly, how do we remove any negative impacts on our neighborhood. But we need to move to the development stage or lose the CTs and opportunity to develop clean distributed energy. We need to get educated and not put our heads in the sand.

Joe Boss, a Potrero Hill resident, is active on power plant and waterfront issues.

Measuring Air Quality on Pot Hill - Is Higher Better?

By Mike Lanza

Like all Potrero Hill residents, I'm very concerned with the proposal to install three new power plants on the San Francisco Bay to the east of our neighborhood. However, I've become even more concerned by the propaganda that is unjustly smearing Potrero Hill's reputation as one of the best neighborhoods in San Francisco. The article by John Borg in the September issue of *The Potrero View* entitled "Health Issues Activate New Community Group," is but one example of this propaganda.

Unless we fight to gain back Potrero Hill's good name, we are in danger of finding our neighborhood's reputation permanently damaged. What's worse, most of what's being alleged about Potrero Hill is either misleading or downright false.

The air quality data cited by Borg is of emissions, not air quality. Of course, Potrero Hill's power plant emits a great deal of air pollutants, but since they are emitted through a 300-foot smokestack that is at the far east edge of the Hill, and since the prevailing winds almost always blow from west to east, it is very misleading to conclude that these high emissions result in poor air quality. In fact, the only data I've been able to find on air quality in San Francisco does not indicate that Potrero Hill has poor air quality. In fact, our air quality is at least as good as other parts of the Bay Area.

The only data that I'm aware of that measures air quality of "Potrero Hill" is produced by the Bay Area Quality Management district. I'm amazed that neither Borg nor S.F. Power has bothered

to inquire with this organization, universally considered to be the authority on Bay Area air quality. I spoke with an expert there by the name of Mark Stoeling. Interestingly, he told me that the San Francisco measuring station is at 16th and Arkansas streets on Potrero Hill. So, we actually do have a wealth of air quality data on the Hill.

In sum, he told me that the 16th and Arkansas station does not have worse air quality than other stations in the Bay Area, and in some cases it has better air quality. Furthermore, he conjectures that locations up the hill from that station would have better air quality than this 16th and Arkansas station because: 1) in general, locations higher on a hill have less pollution, 2) they are further away from downtown San Francisco, which has the highest concentration of automobile emissions (his opinion is that the high concentration of downtown autos and trucks is more polluting than the relatively fewer vehicles whizzing by on 101 and 280), and 3) they are highly unlikely to be affected by the power plant on the bay because it is sufficiently far away and is due east, while winds are almost always from the west.

The 16th and Arkansas station did not record even one day beyond the national or California standard for nitrogen sulfide or sulfur dioxide in 2002. For particulate matter, it recorded four days beyond the national standard in 2002.

I do believe that it would be great to get data about more places than Arkansas

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President's Post-War Iraq Policy Must Be Revised

By House Democratic Leader
Nancy Pelosi

For months now, the Bush Administration's approach to bringing stability to Iraq has relied on U.S. troops taking almost all of the risks, and American taxpayers paying virtually all of the bills.

It is clear that whatever plan may have existed for dealing with post-war Iraq, that plan has failed. That failure is the result of miscalculations and faulty assumptions by the Administration. These miscalculations have been extremely costly.

One week into the war, Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz told the House Appropriations subcommittee on defense: "We're dealing with a country that can really finance its own reconstruction, and relatively soon." How wrong that was.

While our military men and women prevailed in battle through their exceptional courage and skill, bringing stability and security to Iraq is far from accomplished. As we have seen in recent weeks, there are enormous problems in Iraq. The condition of Iraq's infrastructure is worse than expected, unemployment is much higher, and opposition is much more intense.

On September 7, the President presented American taxpayers with the bill for these miscalculations: \$87 billion dollars in additional spending. It is likely only a matter of time before even more money will be required.

We are already facing a nearly half trillion-dollar deficit, and American taxpayers deserve to know how this spending will affect our ability to address the unmet needs in our own country.

President Bush and the architects of this failed Iraq policy must tell the American people the truth: How did this happen? How did the Administration spend the \$63 billion that Congress already pro-



Nancy Pelosi

vided, and why were the equipment shortages we now know about not addressed before the war began?

Where is the detailed plan for future spending? Where is the plan to stabilize and rebuild Iraq? Congress will not hand the President a blank check.

Democrats have clear goals for the President's supplemental budget request for Iraq. Democrats want to provide whatever is necessary for our troops to do their jobs well, and to return home safely. There is no question that a stable and secure Iraq is in the best interests of the United States, other countries in the region, and the Iraqi people. The stakes in Iraq are too high to continue on the Administration's current course. We must succeed in Iraq for our sake as well as that of the people of Iraq and their neighbors.

Success is going to require a much more sensible approach than has been taken thus far, and we are quickly running out of time to implement it. The Administration's current plan will not achieve those goals and must be revised.

GETTING INVOLVED

ROSES (Residents of the Southeast Sector) meets the first Thursday of each month with members of the S.F. Police Dept. to discuss issues of public concern. The Forum takes place at 7 p.m. in the community facility downstairs at 1800 Oakdale at Phelps. Refreshments served after the meeting. Next two meetings: Oct. 2 and Nov. 6.

Potrero Hill Health Center Advisory Board meets the first Monday of the month from 4-5 p.m. at the Health Center at 1050 Wisconsin Street. All meetings are open to the public and the audience is welcome to express opinions. Next two meetings: Oct. 6 and Nov. 3.

Dogpatch Neighborhood Association meets the second Tuesday of each even-numbered month at 7 p.m., at 950 Tennessee Street. Next meeting: Oct. 14.

PHAMB (Potrero Hill Association of Merchants & Businesses) meets the second Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. at Goat Hill Pizza, corner of Connecticut and 18th streets. Visit www.potrerohill.biz. Next meeting: Oct. 14.

PHPA (Potrero Hill Parents' Association) meets on the first Friday of the month in the playground behind the Potrero Hill Recreation Center at Madera and Arkansas streets at 12 noon. Next two meetings: Oct. 3 and Nov. 7.

Starr King Park Openspace Board of Directors meets the third Tuesday of each odd-numbered month at 7 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room of the Potrero Branch Library, 1616 20th Street. Next meeting: Nov. 18. Volunteer for the Park work days continue every month on the third Saturday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Next work day: Oct. 18. The park is located along Carolina Street, south of 23rd Street. The board's secretary can be reached at 647-2745. Address mail to Starr King Park, P.O. Box 880293, San Francisco, CA 94188.

Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association meets the last Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. (social time starting at 6:30 p.m.) in the wheelchair-accessible Game Room of the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro Street. For more information visit www.potreroboosters.org or call president Tony Kelly at 341-8040 or e-mail him at president@potreroboosters.org. Next meeting: Oct. 28.

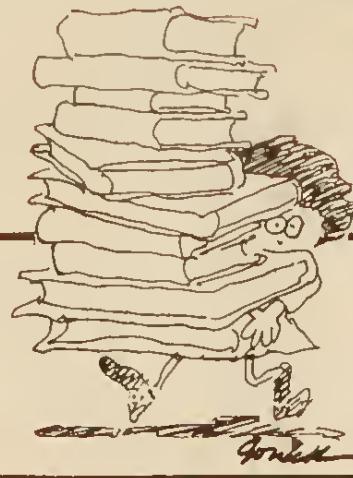
Potrero Hill Garden Club usually meets the last Sunday of the month at 11 a.m. for a potluck lunch in a local home or garden. Informal discussion will be held on a variety of subjects relating to organic, edible, or ornamental gardening appropriate for Potrero Hill's particular mini-climate. Please call 648-6740 for details. Next meeting: Oct. 26.

— Wini Mann

LIBRARY NEWS

POTRERO BRANCH
1616 20th St. / 355-2822

Closed Sunday and Monday
 Tuesday: 10 am - 8 pm
 Wednesday: 12 noon - 8 pm
 Thursday: 10 am - 6 pm
 Friday: 1 pm - 6 pm
 Saturday: 1 pm - 6 pm



UNSUNG HEROES

Do you know someone in the African American community—adult or teenager (ages 13-18)—who unselfishly gives of his or her time and energy to make life better for others? That person may be a good candidate for one of the awards presented by the San Francisco Public Library. The Unsung Heroes Award honors individuals from the African American community who may not receive much publicity, recognition, or money for what they do. If you know of someone like this in your organization, church, school, family, or neighborhood and wish to recognize them, stop by the library for an "Unsung Heroes" nomination form. Deadline for submitting nominations is Friday, October 31. A committee of community representatives will determine the winners.

Everyone is invited to attend the Unsung Heroes Award presentation on Sunday, November 23 at 1:00 p.m. in the Main Library, Koret Auditorium, 100 Larkin Street at Grove Street. If you have any questions, please contact Amelia Martin, Potrero Branch Library at 415-355-2822 or Linda Brooks-Burton, Bayview/Anna E. Waden Branch Library at 415-355-2851.

OCTOBER PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

- Infant/toddler lapsit, featuring stories, songs, and rhymes on Thursdays, October 2 and 9, at 10:30 a.m. For children newborn through age 3.
- Evening storytime for children ages 3 and older on Tuesdays, October 7 and 21 at 7:00 p.m.
- Evening films for children on Tuesday,

BEFORE THE REMOTE CONTROL



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TEN YEARS AGO

In The View

LIVE-WORK UNITS WIN CONDITIONAL APPROVAL

The S.F. Planning Commission met September 23 to consider whether to approve 14 live-work spaces for the abandoned railroad tracks between 17th, De Haro, 16th and Rhode Island streets. The project received approval pending modifications, including stronger insulation from noise, reduced size and increased off-street parking. Local business owners had objected to the project having been given a Negative Declaration, meaning that no Environmental Impact Report would be required. Among those complaining were Sally's Deli, Le Club Touche, and Anchor Brewing Company, which argued that the commission should act to preserve the very small area zoned for industrial use.

LIBRARY ART SHOW OPENED FOR THE 38TH TIME

The 38th Annual Potrero Hill Library Art Show opened October 2nd, with a reception October 15, where visitors would have the chance to chat with the artists, all of whom live or work on Potrero Hill. Three of the artists, Charles Griffin Farr, Henri Marie-Rose and Jack Connolly, have participated in the event since its inception.

POTRERO HILL FESTIVAL

Starting with an All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast at the Neighborhood House on the morning of October 16, the 5th annual Potrero Hill Festival promised more entertainment on and off the main stage at the Daniel Webster schoolyard than past festivals had offered. New features included face painting by clowns, games for children and adults, motorized cable car tours of the Hill, Hill Archives photo exhibits, and video screenings by Daniel Webster students. Musical entertainment was provided by Hill residents, including Madeline Eastman, Vince Lateano and Bruce Forman, the Chris Cobb Blues Band with vocalist Keta Bill, Mary Dollar's Samba do Coracao, Steve Griffiths and the Gospel Hummingbirds, and the Neighborhood House Girls' Club. Special evening events — music, comedy and poetry — took place at eight different Hill locations.

FEDERAL FUNDS ALLOW NEW STAFF HIRING AT CALEB CLARK

Following the ongoing city budget crisis and recent community efforts to keep the Caleb Clark Clinic open, three new clinic positions have been created by federal funds. In July, the new federal Ryan White Care funding made it possible for clinic director, Dr. Michael Drennan, to hire Hill resident Dr. Sushna Magnuson as a part-time physician. Ryan White funding will also support a full-time RN position and a medical records clerk. Dr. Drennan said the most important issue of the Clinic's long-term survival depends on the passage of the sales tax extension vote in November.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM TO OPEN AT THE NABE

A day treatment program dealing with substance abuse was slated to open October 1 at the Neighborhood House to provide counseling, therapy, education, and an exercise program to some 20 youths age 12 to 25. Many of the program's initial participants were likely to be youths who already frequent the Neighborhood House. There might also be referrals through Westside Mental Health, and through Juvenile Hall and the Adult Probation System. Betty McGee, the director of the program, stressed that it would not be providing services to felony offenders in lieu of incarceration. McGee said current funding was for one year and if participants are successful she would like to develop an aftercare program based on the 12-step model.

WEBSTER PRINCIPAL SEES CHALLENGE IN DIVERSITY

Daniel Webster School principal David Wong faces a unique challenge: to educate children from diverse neighborhoods such as the Mission, Bayview, Chinatown and Potrero Hill in a way that helps each child to reach his or her full potential as a learner. "I am lucky to have such a large group of dedicated teachers," he said, and praised the large group of volunteers who give their time to their children. The Gap adopted the school last year through a program that matched local corporations with local schools. The Gap will send 30 volunteers to Webster again this year.

PENNSYLVANIA RAMP TO 280 TO REOPEN

The 25th Street on ramp to southbound I-280 (off Pennsylvania Avenue) was opened September 17 for the first time since the Loma Prieta quake in 1989. However the ramp will be closed from 3 to 7 p.m. Mondays through Fridays in order not to overload the single southbound lane during commute hours. The lane gets high levels of traffic that enter 280 at 6th Street and also on Marioposa at rush hours.

CITYWIDE OPEN STUDIOS START OCT. 6 AT SOMAR

S.F.'s largest city-wide visual arts event, Open Studios, kicks off its 18th annual show October 6 with a public reception at the South of Market Gallery (SOMAR). The 640 artists participating in the event will open their studios to the public on three consecutive weekends beginning October 9. The producer of Open Studios, ArtSpan, is a non-profit organization dedicated to building connections within S.F.'s visual arts community and between that community and the general public.

AND TWENTY YEARS AGO . . . Showplace Square proposes closing Henry Adams (Kansas) Street to vehicular traffic . . . The proposed Wisconsin Street housing development (Parkview Heights) was to be presented to the Board of Supervisors for final approval, after 20 years of controversy, including the resignation of the original developer, the firing of an architect, charges of mismanagement and "petitions and counter-petitions" . . . Plans by Caltrans to improve lighting on freeways and approaches had Hill residents worried about glare . . . View staffer Peggy Ohta died of lung cancer at age 64.

— Bernie Gershater

If you are searching for a story that ran in *The Potrero View* a long time ago, take a look at the bound volumes at the Potrero Branch Library which contain every issue, from the very first one in 1970 through 2000. Also at the library are unbound issues from 2001 to the present. All these materials are available for use at the library.



We Get Letters

(Continued from Page 2)

eminent domain if the residents don't leave willingly.

The city's next move is to wall in Potrero Hill by surrounding it with high-rise buildings. We don't know if the wall of high risers is to protect the rest of the city from the contamination of Potrero Hill or to lock up Potrero Hill so our protests will not be seen or heard.

When it comes to pollution, Potrero Hill and the southeast take the prize because the city has ignored the concerns of local residents. And, the city still wants to force the placement of three to four peaker power plants on Potrero Hill.

Babette Drefke
Kansas Street



Editor:

I am a resident-homeowner of Bay View-Hunters Point (BV-HP). Together with Potrero, our neighborhoods comprise District 10. I would like you to know that your neighbors to the south are *very unhappy* with our shared supervisor. Please give your attention to just a few issues residents of area zip code 94124 struggle with daily and know that attempts to engage the authority of our supervisor to act in our behalf on critical issues have been met with avoidance, or by referring us to unhelpful aides. Letters, e-mails, invitations to join us in critical meetings have mostly been ignored; phone calls are unreturned. It is usually impossible to get a timely appointment with the supervisor. We resort to visiting other supervisors for advice. These other supervisors at least give us the respect of listening.

Health problems have reached a critical state in BV-HP especially for those of us who are living adjacent to the shipyard. Asthma and cancers plague us. Infant mortality is alarmingly high. Residents insist that the fossil fuel power plants must be demolished now, not later.

Our supervisor should be demanding that the Housing Authority open boarded-up public housing units in BV-HP. (City-wide, 500 public housing apartments are kept empty and boarded up.) Boarded-up housing is the perfect excuse for the Redevelopment Agency to declare "blight," and extend a warm invitation to profiteers.

In fact, our supervisor only learned two weeks before the closing date on a suspiciously short 36-day window that the Housing Authority allowed for a Request for Qualifications from developers to demolish and privatize ALL public housing in the city.

Our poorer neighbors and friends and small businesses even now are being forced to move away while construction has turned the entire length of Third Street into chaos. Many unemployed residents are denied work and those who are not are given a stop sign to hold. Some of these stop-sign holders are licensed to operate heavy machinery but these higher paying jobs are not given to them.

Federal Base Realignment and Closure Law, which govern the closure of military bases, requires that these transferred lands be developed with the BEST interest of the adjacent community most adversely affected by the loss of livelihood and the deadly toxics that were left behind. San Francisco Redevelopment

Agency policy requires the development of Hunters Point Shipyard to maximize the economic benefits to the BV-HP Community. Until last Thursday, when Supervisor Maxwell agreed to consider an alternate benefits package that meets these requirements giving control to the people and for the people, she had been promoting the fraudulent Mayor/SFRA plan to practically give the land away to an out-of-state profiteering developer, Lennar. This Lennar plan will cause the poorer people to be displaced and driven into even deeper poverty. Why should we stand by silently while our supervisor considers this horrible plan to privatize public property? We are very much concerned that she may not do the right thing.

Our supervisor refuses to take action in response to multiple, on-going assaults by police against children in BV-HP (including wanton display of deadly force, sexual molestation, beatings, humiliation). Not only does our shared supervisor take no action, her absence from community forums on police violence silently condones these demeaning attacks by thuggish white cops. But isn't this the way it always is in poor communities out of sight of the middle and upper class?

I see my neighborhood treated like a colonized ghetto belonging to a city controlled by the wealthy. We want to have a say in our future. We are asking our supervisor to help long suffering residents here to bring to life a plan to create from our deserved inheritance, the shipyard, shareholder wealth and ongoing dividends for even the poorest among us. We are waiting to see if she will help stop the city from stealing our land.

Our concerns are also yours. Potrero projects are about to be privatized. The peakers are about to be sited with no real plans in place to demolish the old fossil fuel plants or to produce renewable energy. Will you passively watch the creation of even more homelessness, sickness, death?

Tell Supervisor Maxwell to do as WE ask and not what monied interests tell her to do.

K.D. Lutton
Bay View-Hunters Point



Editor:

On behalf of the Yes We Can Urban Asthma Partnership Program, I would like to commend *The Potrero View* for its coverage of asthma problems currently faced by San Francisco, especially in Bayview-Hunters Point, and the Potrero, Mission, and Tenderloin neighborhoods. This issue certainly deserves more media and public attention.

Our clinic at San Francisco General Hospital specifically addresses pediatric asthma. The rate of asthma in children under 5 years old has risen by 160 percent in the past 15 years. Studies show asthma rates are especially high in low-income minority populations. African American and Latino children account for 77 percent of all pediatric asthma cases we handle. In some southeast-side schools, you'll likely to find as many asthma inhalers as pencils.

We encourage your readers to find out more about asthma, and what they can do about it. Freeways and major industrial polluters like power plants are a particular prob-

What Did Halliburton Know, and When Did It Know It?

By Margie Burns

For a combination of reasons, the notion that Iraq posed a threat to the U.S. should now be exposed as transparently improbable.

Iraq, less than one-twentieth the size of America in land area, is less than one-tenth the size of America in population. In fact, it has a smaller population than Italy, Kenya, Malaysia, both Koreas, or Poland, and less than one-third that of Vietnam.

In the past 20 years Iraq has been ravaged by two wars that depleted its male population. Despite its vast oil reserves, its other industries and agriculture are debilitated. The C.I.A.'s "World Fact Book" details the miseries. (See www.cia.gov.)

As we have seen, the shipping of Iraqi oil to this country took place without opposition by the White House. In its push toward war it did not mention that U.S. oil companies had stepped up and almost doubled their imports of Iraqi oil during the weeks before the invasion – in other words funneling more millions to Saddam, faster than ever.

Indeed, when Sen. Frank Murkowski (R-Alaska) introduced legislation to prohibit U.S. firms from purchasing Iraqi oil, the White House and its helpers in the House GOP worked behind the scenes to oppose the legislation.

Murkowski, of course, supported drilling in the federally protected lands in Alaska.

Against this background the Bush White House pushed a campaign that Saddam's Iraq, with its secret weapons, posed a threat to the largest military power the world has ever seen.

Now might be a good time to remind ourselves that such weapons have still not been found. With U.S. soldiers, American and international journalists, U.N. personnel and Iraqi civilians dying tragically every day, the troops still have found nothing on a scale to justify invading and remaking another country. The White House has deputized too few inspectors to search Iraq, and it has resisted offers of help from other nations and the U.N.

NBC's Tom Brokaw asked Bush directly in a TV interview aired in April: "Why not pull in U.N. inspectors?" No answer. Instead, when Brokaw asked whether the Iraqi weapons threat was "overestimated," Bush shifted, referring briefly to "programs," rather than to "weapons."

Meanwhile, a lawsuit has been filed by the Sierra Club and Judicial Watch, a conservative Washington watchdog group, to compel disclosure of documents from Cheney's Energy Task Force, set up secretly to define national energy policy.

Some of the Cheney documents, produced on order of a federal judge, turn out to include maps of oil fields in Iraq dating from March 2001, about the same time that Halliburton acquired its Landmark subsidiary office in Pakistan. (See www.judicialwatch.org/071703.b_PR.shtml.)

During the 2000 presidential campaign Cheney said that he'd had a firm policy at Halliburton against dealing with Iraq, but news reports have since found that his senior company executives handling Iraqi business say that they had not heard of any prohibition against it.

Cheneygate? We may need to get another special prosecutor on the job again.

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for educational institutions.

To learn more about asthma in San Francisco and the entire Bay Area, I encourage your readers to check out the informative RAMP's web site www.rampasthma.org, or call 510-622-4438.

Arthur Hill
Community Health Worker
Yes We Can Urban Asthma Partnership
Program, S.F. General Hospital

More Letters on Page 10



Are You as Smart as You Think You Are?

American Mensa's Fifth Annual National Testing Day will take place on October 18, 2003. Local groups will be administering the Mensa Admission Test at nearly 200 test sites across the country on National Testing Day.

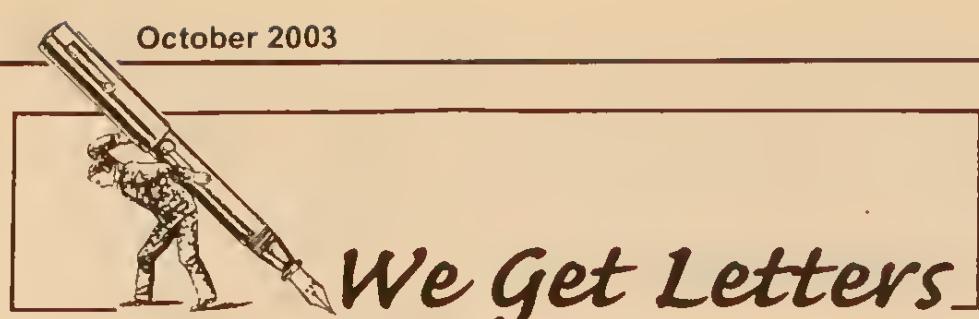
American Mensa has more than 47,000 members as of March 2000. Five million Americans are eligible for Mensa membership. San Francisco Regional Mensa has approximately 2000 members.

Mensans come from all walks of life and all levels of society. However, they share one trait – high intelligence. To qualify for Mensa one must score in the top 2% of the general population on a standardized intelligence test.

Anyone who scores in the top two percent on the Mensa Admission Test will be invited to join Mensa. The test is open to any person age 14 and older. Pre-registration is required. A photo ID is required at the test. The test fee is \$30 (bring check or money order to the test).

The test will be held at San Francisco State University, Creative Arts Building, Room 147. Testing begins Saturday, 10/18/2003, at 1 p.m. sharp.

To pre-register for the test, contact Frank Schafer (test proctor) at schafes@aol.com. If you wish to register and cannot get access to email, or if you need further information on the test, such as more detailed directions, contact Frank Schafer, Mensa Testing Coordinator, by phone at 415-474-1130 or by fax at 415-474-2388.



We Get Letters

A Vote for Dean

Editor:

With three million jobs lost, over \$1 trillion dollars added to our national debt, and a war overseas which every day claims the life of one of our heroic soldiers, where is the president? Taking a 35-day vacation in Texas.

Our president can't be bothered with the needs of ordinary Americans. That's why, in November 2004, it's time to send George W. Bush and his cronies back to Texas (who I'm told don't want him either).

George Bush's presidency has been a colossal failure for America. We need a president who will restore our sense of community as Americans, rather than dividing us by race, gender, or sexual orientation. That's why I'm voting for Howard Dean. Because a campaign of hope will beat a campaign of fear every time.

Scott Osgus
11th Avenue

future of our neighborhood.

When asked to state his group's opinion, De Andrade is quoted as saying, "Officially (we), haven't taken a position or talked about it yet. We're always a little late. We wait until the approvals are in."

This reactive stance can only serve to hurt the existing small business owners who will be directly affected by "big boxes like Starbucks" entering the Hill. The coffee conglomerate already has two locations on the parameter of Potrero (at Bryant and Mariposa and the Potrero Center). As they now strategically place themselves directly within our neighborhood community, De Andrade and his association seem lost in a quagmire of indecision and indolence which can only result in serious consequences for us all on Potrero Hill. De Andrade should be ashamed for his procrastination.

Curtis Huth
18th Street

Take a Stand on Starbucks

Editor:

I was appalled and dismayed by Phillip De Andrade's recent comments to the *San Francisco Bay Guardian* (Sept. 3, 2003) regarding the arrival of Starbucks on Potrero Hill. As president of the Potrero Hill Association of Merchants and Businesses, his remarks indicate a distinct lack of leadership and neglect with regard to his association's role in guiding the

It Takes a Village

Editor:

What happened to the village? It takes a village to raise a child. That was once an active principle, now it's forgotten myth. I heard stories how there was a time when if you did wrong in the street, what you did made it back home before you did. You might have had two or three people on your case before your parent got to you.

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Nowadays, when you attempt to give proper instruction to a child, you'll get attitude from the parent.

Our president wants millions for war. The entire country is in a deficit. Where is this money going to come from? The schools are poor. Recently there was a school district (in Oakland) that filed bankruptcy.

Youth programs are closing left and right (because there is no money?) Children are becoming robbers, rapists, thieves, and prostitutes. What will it be like ten years from now?

We need people who will work with our youth who have integrity, strong minds, and a passion to make a difference. (Do we need the ways of the village to return?)

André L. Brooks
Jennings Street

Brooks has been a community worker for many years with San Francisco health facilities.

ART IN CITY HALL. Temporary exhibitions programmed by the Arts Commission Gallery, Ground Floor City Hall, through November 30.

"Aging in America" — photographs by Ed Kashi, text by Julie Winokur, recording geriatric wards in prisons, elder Olympiads, full-time RVers, home hospice care.

Elder Art — Priscilla Joffe, a founding member of Women of Age Productions, and Robert Neil, who moved to Laguna Honda Hospital in 1990, and began painting there after he lost the use of his right side to multiple sclerosis.

❖
NEW WORK BY STEFAN KIRKEBY will be on display at Klein's Deli, Connecticut and 20th streets, through October, with a reception for the artist on Thursday, October 30, from 7-8:30 p.m. For information call 279-5685.



S.F. PUBLIC LIBRARY PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

"About Birds", new collage paintings by local artist Lea Rude, a former librarian at Potrero Branch Library, Main Library, Fourth Floor Wall Display Case, through November 30.

Thursday, October 9, "Laboring For Coverage: Unions and Media or What Happened to the Labor Beat?" A panel discussion about the diminished extent of labor coverage in today's news, and possible explanations, moderated by "Mother Jones" publisher Jay Harris, Koret Auditorium, 6-8 p.m.

Saturday, October 11, Bernard Bragg performs highlights from his life in the deaf theater. This program is in American Sign Language. Voice interpreters are provided. Koret Auditorium, 2:30-4 p.m.

Wednesday, October 29, "Behind the Scenes With ACT's Waiting for Godot", a lecture by ACT artistic director Carey Perloff, Koret Auditorium, 6:30- 8 p.m.

OCTOBER EVENTS AT MODERN TIMES BOOKSTORE

Thursday, October 14, 7:30 p.m. *At Work: The Art of California Labor*, edited by Mark Dean Johnson examines labor history in California since the turn of the 20th century, from the rise of statewide organized labor to the changing demographics of the wartime workforce, from the zenith of the California Labor School to the farm workers' movement, from the disenfranchisement of the workers in the service economy to the effects of globalization at the end of the 20th century.

Sunday, October 19, at 2 p.m., Alexander Cockburn, co-editor of the print and online journal *Counter Punch*, discusses Israel, Palestine and the Middle East, the Israeli lobby in the US, and anti-semitism.

Thursday, October 23, at 7:30 p.m., author, filmmaker and activist Saul Landau's new book *The Pre-Emptive Empire: A Guide to Bush's Kingdom*, delves into the erosion of civil liberties under the guise of pre-empting the scourge of terrorism.



PREVENT BLINDNESS IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA. Free vision screening for glaucoma and other vision problems, Monday, October 6, at 4200 California Street, Suite 117. The screening takes about fifteen minutes and could save your sight. Appointments are necessary to avoid long waits. Call 387-0934 for appointment.

❖
THE CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY presents "At Work: The Art of California Labor," through December 20, at the Historical Society on Mission Street, near Third.

On Thursday, October 9, 6 p.m., in the Main Library's Koret Auditorium. *Mother Jones* publisher Jay Harris will moderate an exchange with panelists Amy Dean, former chief executive of the South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council, ILWU organizer Glen Ramiskey, *Chronicle* staff writer Rick Del Vecchio, and Danny Beagle, former editor of *The Dispatcher*.

❖
CENTER FOR CAREGIVER TRAINING presents "Caregiving 101", a free award-winning course for family caregivers, six evenings/18 hours of basic training for families, friends and partners "in the trenches," beginning Wednesday, October 8 at CPMC/Davies Campus, Castro and Duboce. Call 563-9286 to reserve your space.

❖
S.F. HISTORY ASSOCIATION is sponsoring "Ephemera 2002," a collector's sale, on Friday, October 12, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the S.F. County Fair Building (formerly the Hall of Flowers), Golden Gate Park, Ninth Avenue and Lincoln Way. About 40 dealers will offer early photographs, books, postcards, maps, prints and other collectibles. Admission is \$5 per person. For more information visit www.sanfranciscohistory.org.

❖
135th ANNUAL ITALIAN HERITAGE PARADE, Sunday, October 12, starts at Jefferson and Stockton Streets in Fisherman's Wharf and winds its way south through North Beach on Columbus Avenue, and ends in Washington Square in front of Sts. Peter and Paul Church. Dozens of handcrafted floats featuring Bay Area businesses, community groups, and Italian organizations, local high school Italian clubs and marching bands; special appearances by "Christopher Columbus," "Queen Isabella and her court," open air dining and wine and food specials at North Beach restaurants along the route. For more information call 434-1492 or visit www.sfcolumbusday.org. On Saturday, October 11, there will be Italian Heritage events at Grand Banquet and Ball in the Westin St. Francis Hotel. For ticket information and reservations call 434-1492.



FAMILY FEST in Golden Gate Park Concourse Band Shell, sponsored by Coleman Advocates for Children, is free combination of children's entertainment, parent information, civic awareness activities, and games and food for everyone. Sunday, October 12, noon to 4 p.m. Call 239-0161 for more information.

❖
S.F. LEAGUE OF URBAN GARDENERS (SLUG) offers a class in water systems, catchment, storage and use, Saturday, October 18, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Location to be announced. Learn ways to capture winter rainfall for use during the summer dry season. Class is free, but pre-registration is required. Call 255-4493.

❖
PHYSICS OF TOYS: GOOPS, GOOS AND SLIMY STUFF at the Exploratorium, Sunday, October 18, in the Skylight Area from noon-4 p.m. Come prepared to get messy; you can take what you make home with you. Free with museum admission, which is \$12 for adults; students and seniors \$9.50; children 4-12 \$8; under 4 free.

❖
BIRDWATCHING FOR KIDS, California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, Saturday, October 18, 8:30-10 a.m. Learn what to look for or hear when identifying birds in the field. Wear warm clothing in layers, walking shoes, and bring water. Binoculars will be provided. For children ages 9-up. Pre-registration is required. \$1 members, \$2 non-members. Space is limited. Call 750-7348.

❖
SHARON ART STUDIO OPEN HOUSE fundraising sale and silent auction, featuring hand-crafted pottery, fused and stained glass, jewelry, drawings and paintings, produced by community members. The festivities will also include pottery and stained glass demonstrations as well as food and wine. Sunday, October 19, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Sharon Art Studio in Golden Gate Park, next to the Children's Playground and Carousel and adjacent to Sharon Meadow. Admission is free.

❖
SHOULD JAPAN REVISE ITS PEACE CONSTITUTION? A panel discussion with Charles Buress, who covers Japan-related subjects for the *Chronicle*; Patrick Lloyd Hatcher, a fellow at USF's Center for the Pacific Rim; Yukie Kudo, a journalist and lecturer specializing in the areas of international relations, defense, and politics; and Steven K. Vogel, associate professor of political science at UC Berkeley. Monday, October 20, 5:45 p.m., at USF Lone Mountain Campus, Rm 100. Free, reservations recommended. Call 422-6357, or visit www.pacificrim.usfca.edu.

❖
OLDER WOMEN'S LEAGUE is holding its monthly meeting on Saturday, October 25, from 10:30 a.m. to noon. The subject is "It's Open Season On the Elderly-Don't Be A Sitting Duck," a talk by Mary S. Toomey, Director of Elder Abuse Prevention, Institute on Aging. Call the OWL office at 989-4422 for the location of the meeting. Admission is free. The public is welcome.

❖
ESPRIT PARK VOLUNTEER DAY! Meet your neighbors — feed the plants! The first volunteer day was such a success that the Friends of Esprit is sponsoring another on Saturday, October 25, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call Lynn Brown for details, 826-1213.

POTRERO HILL FESTIVAL '03



Saturday, October 18th
Pancake Breakfast 9:00am-11:00am Street Festival 10am-5pm
Music Dance Arts & Crafts Jewelry Vendors Ethnic Foods Special Events for Children
Potrero H. Neighborhood Boxes 250 1st Street San Francisco, CA 94107
For more info call 415-826-3080

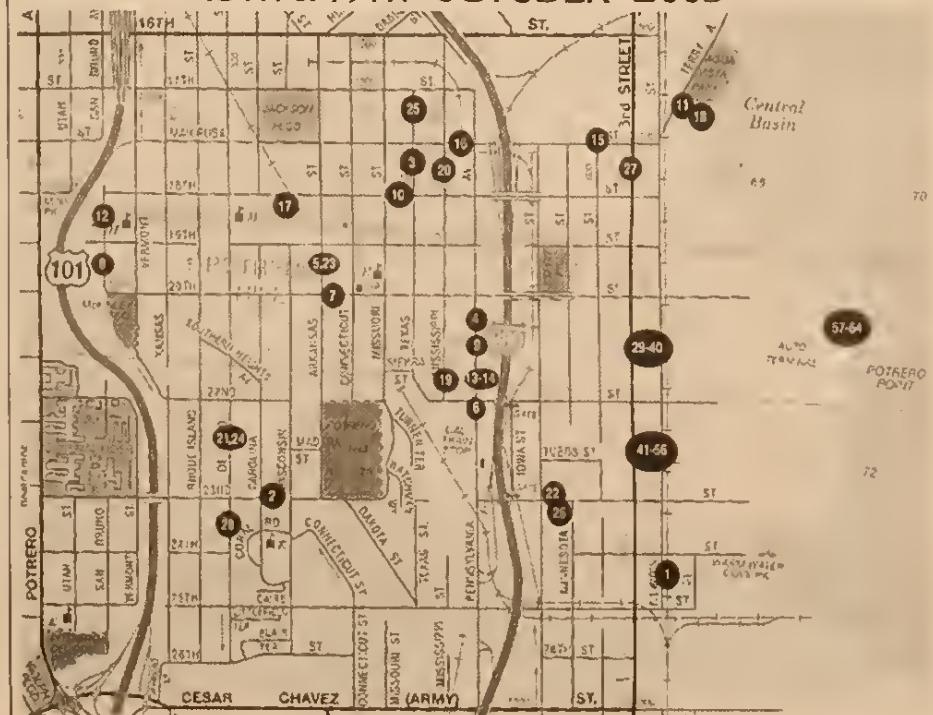
OPEN STUDIOS



"Le Coq" by Gila Lane (top) and "On the outskirts of Paris my army is being beaten up. I'm just running around and can't do a thing" by Robert Gruttner (above).

San Francisco Open Studios 2003 is a month-long, free-to-the-public visual feast that takes place over four weekends in October. Over 800 artists open their studios and more than 50,000 visitors are expected to view and purchase more than \$1.4 million worth of art. Studios are open on Saturdays and Sundays, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in various neighborhoods of the city. Studios in the areas of Potrero Hill and Bayview will be open on October 18 and 19, and studios in Hunters Point and Hunters Point Shipyard will be open October 25 and 26. An exhibition of works will be on display at SomARTS Gallery, 934 Brannan Street (between Eighth and Ninth streets), Tuesday through Friday, noon to 4 p.m., and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays through October 26. For more information call 415 262-0282 or visit sfopenstudios.com

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Art should always make people laugh a little and frighten them a little. Anything but bore them. Art has no right to be boring.

— Jean Dubuffet

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| 1465 Illinois St. | 14. Meura Kendrick | 1011 23rd St. #15 | Simon Filial
Beth Weintraub
Alice Gibbons
Mary Huizinga
Ling Liu
Gloria Morales
Hee Jae Suh |
| 2. Ann Brinkley | 15. Emily Kuenellier | 27. Alfredo Tofenelli, | 51 – 56 Dogpatch Work
2565 3rd St |
| 1912 23rd St. | 685 Tennessee St. #A | 2065 3rd St. | Diane Fredericks
Joan Madonna
Missy Nery
Denise Parsons
Mirna Rivera
Max White |
| 3. Erin Cerney | 18. Gille Lane | 28. Joe Winfield, | 57 - 64 Noonan Building, Pier 70 |
| 298 Texas St. #8 | 1001 Mariposa St. #204 | 1265-B De Haro St. | Leslie Lauren
Connie Harris
Marti McKee
Daniel Phillip
Nicole Phungrasamee Fein
Marsha Gleicher Torkelson
Anne Wienholi
Barbara Winkelstein |
| 4. Pierre Chatel | 17. Lola Llewellyn | 29 - 40
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Dominique Bayart #207
Zanne Christensen, #216
Rory Earnshaw, #201
Jeffrey Gallison, #429
John Haag, #21
M Koller, #216
Ashley McNamara, #202
Michael Rosenthal, #202
Lynne Rutter, #207
Antonio Rivera #24
Pat Wipt, #340 | |
| 5. Allene H. Coffino | 18. Anna Poole
"Pelican" at the Ramp | 20. Roale Powell | |
| 438 Arkansas St | 701 Pennsylvania Ave.
#104 | 223 Mississippi St. | |
| 6. Leura Deem | 19. Amie S. Potsic | 21. Deborah Reed, | |
| 701 Pennsylvania Ave.
#104 | 699 Mississippi St. #204 | 1144 De Haro St | |
| 7. David Gentry | 20. Roale Powell | 22. David Regan | |
| 1627 20th St. | 1627 20th St. | 1099 23rd St. #7 | |
| 8. Anne Karin Gleas | 21. Deborah Reed, | 23. Nancy Rodger | |
| 767 San Bruno Ave. | 1144 De Haro St | 438 Arkansas St | |
| 9. Robert Gruttner | 22. David Regan | 24. Christopher Sabre | |
| 549 Pennsylvania Ave. | 1099 23rd St. #7 | 1144 De Haro St | |
| 10. Delise | 23. Nancy Rodger | 25. Stuart Sheldon | |
| 1345 18th St | 438 Arkansas St | 120 Texas St. | |
| 11. Sherri Hepler | 24. Christopher Sabre | Tim Andrews #317
Jonathan Burstein
dama maca #323 | |
| 817 Terry Francois Blvd | 1144 De Haro St | | |
| 12. Martha Jones | 25. Stuart Sheldon | | |
| 632 San Bruno Ave. #7 | 120 Texas St. | | |

Identity Play

Lions! Tigers! and Bears! Oh my! and then there is the intro for Jason Post's new show—Lesbians! Transgenders! and Gays! and oh my. *Worse Than Chocolate* proclaims that it has something for everyone. Indeed, this seems to be the case. Post digs deep into the tragic-comedy of his daily life as a lesbian misfit and resurfaces with this sitcom style romp about lust and its most misinformed bi-product, love, amongst the denizens of a San Francisco law firm. So let's add to that description, shall we? Lesbians! Transgenders! Gays! Lawyers! Surely, something for everyone. Any show that claims to battle the bedroom, the boardroom, and Bill Gates with equal passion and acerbic flair certainly can make that claim. Watch identity politics maintain its sanity and its sense of humor, especially when compared to California politics, in *Worse than Chocolate* at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th Street. The show opens on October 16 and continues through November 8. Showtimes are Wednesday through Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sunday evenings at 7 p.m., and matinees at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$15-25. For reservations call 415-861-5079.



Christina Braun in Theatre of Yugen's *Peace Dreams*.

Pieces of Peace

We all dream of peace. That dream grows stronger as the war-mongers in power move forward in their agenda, hiding behind the petticoats of patriotism. A dream is a nighttime discussion, a wild fancy and a blind hope. To dream of peace is to yell into a silent night, praying for an echo. But irony taints even dreams, for a dream of peace gains strength as the reality of that peace becomes more distant. Theatre of Yugen's monthly series presents *Peace Dreams*, a dance performance choreographed by Christina Braun. To dream of peace in these times may risk feelings of impotency but Braun and her co-conspirators against fear provide another answer, another way in which this dream can manifest. Using Butoh Dance and the collective choreography of the dancers, these performers promote a dream of peace. Braun knows that it is the subtle motions of an elbow or a knee that can bring those dreams home to roost in the body. She stresses that in this disconnected time "the transformative power of art is the best we have to offer the community." Perhaps it is enough to know that there are others dreaming, and letting those dreams seep into art. To watch the speechless dream of dance, see Yugen Presents at Noh space, 2840 Mariposa Street, at Florida, Monday and Tuesday, October 13-14 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10-15. For reservations and information call 415-621-7978 or visit www.theatreofyugen.org.

Performing Arts Roundup

By Sandhya Dirks



"Toast" and "Coffee." Sharon Lockwood serves up both in *Nickle and Dimed*.

Erin Brockovich

You've read the book, now see the movie . . . wait . . . ummm . . . the play. Perhaps one day it will be a marquee production starring Julia Roberts, but until Erin Brockovich becomes Erin Brockovich, the current version of *Nickle and Dimed* is at the Brava Theater in play form. *Nickle and Dimed* is the best-selling non-fiction book by Barbara Ehrenreich who went "undercover" as a waitress, learning to scrape by on hard hours and a low salary. Understanding the plight of welfare-to-work mothers and other folk stuck between the rock and the hard place of customer service is essential to comprehending modern American culture. Yet many have criticized Ehrenreich, who as

an educated and successful white woman played the role of a minimum wage worker in the process of writing a best-selling book. Does spending a few months in the demeaning role of low-wage server give her the voice to speak for those who live in what for her was just a role, but for them is a way of life? Is she co-opting the voice of the working poor or is she bringing to light a neglected facet of the American experience? Is her message more important than her perhaps suspect method? To reflect upon these questions and to expose yourself to the underbelly of the working woman in America, witness *Nickle and Dimed*, October 8 through November 9 at the Brava Theater. Call 415-647-2822 for tickets and information.

Post-Whatisms?

If you, like most of us, fail to understand what the heck people are talking about when they bandy around the term "postmodernism," the Eastenders Repertory Company presents an answer in the form of "Two evenings of PostModern Comedy." Here are examples of that elusive concept — *Wonder of the World* by David Lindsay-Abaire and *[sic]* by Melissa James Gibson — which leaves one wondering if being postmodern involves having three names. *Wonder of the World* has, in past incarnations, featured *Sex in the City* star Sarah Jessica Parker as the lead. Our San Francisco production may not feature this thrice-named actress or her personal world wonder of walking effortlessly in Manolo Blahniks, but it is directed by Debbie Lynn Carriger. Three names as proof of postmodern sensibility is retained! Cass, the play's heroine, leaves home and husband to wash up on the falls

of Niagara. Cass encounters a coterie of eccentric characters and implausible coincidences, all which pull together at America's number one honeymoon spot to expose a universe where randomness is the only certainty. The other featured play, *[sic]*, is set in the overlapping world of apartment dwellers, where Theo, Babette, and Frank engage in a quirky menage-a-trois. They talk, eat Chinese take-out, make shadow puppets, and vacuum, all while pursuing their own absurd lives and passions. Somewhere between the ridiculous scenarios and the sublime meditations on human isolation and hurt resides the essence of postmodernism — that state in which irony meets existentialism and erases the difference between laughter and tears. For a postmodern evening, or two, see *Wonder of the World* and *[sic]*, performing in rotation through October 19 at the Eureka Theater Company, 215 Jackson Street. Tickets are \$15-20 and may be purchased by calling 510-568-4118.

Hollywood Hill

Potrero Hill has long been a secret of Hollywood. When they need a San Francisco chase scene, they come to the Hill for its steep streets and perfect bay views. When they need a bohemian neighborhood they deck out our sidewalks in bazaar regalia and call "action." But it is not just Hollywood that finds film inspiration here — the Hill has its share of independent filmmakers — those who work, live, and film in Potrero. There's View staffer Julia Segrove for one. And there's Amanda Micheli for another. Director Micheli's documentary feature *Double Dare* will star as the Closing Night film of the 19th Annual Film Festival of Independent Cinema. *Double Dare* follows Jeannie and Zoe, the stunt doubles for Wonder Woman and Xena: Warrior Princess, as they navigate their dangerous and male-dominated profession. Despite the challenges and lack of recognition, these women find true joy in their work. I dare you to check it out, as well as other local independent films, at the Roxie Cinema (3117 16th Street) and the Castro Theatre (429 Castro Street), October 30 through November 2. For tickets or more information call 415-552-3456 or visit www.filmlarts.org.



Ron Coulter (left) and Sydney Star (right).

Dummy

Ventriloquism. It brings to mind the image of a man with parsed lips and spittle dancing at the corners of his mouth, and that scary grinning dummy perched on one knee. But it is not just a carnival act, for amongst other factors, ventriloquism employs that rarely seen actor's art — subtlety. The man divided, the eternal conversation that runs on between self and soul, often expressed in philosophical writings, is epitomized most absurdly in the split consciousness of ventriloquist and dummy. So perhaps it is only fitting that the playwright/actor/ventriloquist Ron Coulter, and his faithful sidekick, Sydney Star, tackle such complex issues as horror, survival, life, death, and hope, in *Last Act For Walter Gordon and other plays*. *Last Act For Walter Gordon* tells the story of a man, physically and mentally weary, who wanders into his cluttered attic only to uncover the detritus of his history. This history includes his old Ventriloquist puppet. Through conversations with the puppet, and subsequently with his refugee memories, the substance of the play is formed. Monologue transforms into dialogue at Costume Studio Stage, 1119 Market Street, October 9 through November 16. Performances are Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays at 2:30. Tickets are \$20. For tickets and information call 415-552-6672.



Where SHOULD Those Power Plants Go?

(Continued from Page 1)

angry residents demanding public comment that the SFPUC's director of communications threatened to "stop the meeting" unless more order could be restored. After further public protest, officials agreed to abandon the original agenda to allow more questions, comment, and a brief impromptu presentation by Steven Moss, a neighbor and energy consultant who criticized parts of the SFPUC plan and some of the data presented by officials.

The SFPUC hopes to secure a site for three natural gas-fired combustion turbines (CTs) east of Potrero Hill, and one unit downtown, within the next month or so. The four units would produce a combined total of about 185 megawatts — and an estimated 37 tons of new air pollution emissions annually. Officials are investigating five possible local sites — one at Pier 70, one near Pier 80, two east of Illinois at 23rd and Cesar Chavez, and one at Mirant's existing Potrero Power Plant near Pier 72.

District 10 Supervisor Sophie Maxwell says she is not pleased with how the SFPUC has handled the siting process. While she still believes the CTs could bring benefits, Maxwell says that because of heavy pollution impacts and a history of environmental injustice southeast side residents deserve more detailed information, written assurances and mitigations, and additional time to study the issue and its possible consequences before siting decisions are finalized.

"So far, the process has not been fair to the public, and it's obviously leading to some distrust," said Maxwell. "These

meetings should have started in December. The siting process needs to be better and we need to move it along. We need a lot more information. I think we should have conditions to site the units here and they should be put in writing."

As an incentive, the SFPUC has promised to improve air quality and reduce air pollution emissions in the Potrero. Yet despite repeated requests from the public, officials have provided no specific mitigation proposals or detailed plans for how air quality improvements would be accomplished. Many neighbors say they can't fully evaluate the plan without this critical information and other questions answered.

One key mitigation measure called for by many concerned neighbors is an agreed upon date for closure of Mirant's existing 360-megawatt power plant, the worst single stationary source of air pollution in San Francisco.

While sympathetic to community concerns, Ed Smeloff, the SFPUC's assistant general manager for energy policy, said that any guarantees about closing the Potrero Plant is up to state regulators. He cited compelling evidence suggesting that the newer, cleaner, and more flexible CTs would be far more reliable than the existing inefficient old power plants at Hunters Point and the Potrero. Combined with planned transmission upgrades and energy reduction programs, he said the new units could allow a phase-out of Mirant's Potrero Plant.

However, Gary DeShazo, a representative from the California Independent System Operator (Cal-ISO), the agency that manages the state's electric grid, said at the September 20 Potrero workshop

that even with transmission improvements, energy efficiency programs, and the four new CTs fully operational, San Francisco would likely need even more power plants to meet its energy needs, and they could be located in the Potrero. This candid disclosure seemed to catch even SFPUC officials by surprise.

DeShazo did agree that the CTs could improve the city's power reliability. He said his agency is still studying the matter and is willing to work with city officials and community members.

"I appreciate ISO being involved in this process. It's very significant that they're confirming our worst fears that even with the CTs, there is a big risk that Potrero will need to host more power plants than it does today," said Richard Katz, a Potrero Hill resident who attended two SFPUC siting workshops. "For the most part, what we don't know now far exceeds what we do know. What are the real pollution impacts? What are the benefits to the commu-

nity? It's not just that we're being offered a bad deal. We're being offered no deal."

Supervisor Maxwell told the *View* that she believed the health and environmental concerns raised by neighbors were legitimate. She noted that she has worked to support renewable energy and fight Mirant's expansion plans, but she also has "a responsibility to help keep the lights on" in San Francisco.

Maxwell suggested the city install air quality monitors along the Potrero waterfront and convene a group of citizens and city officials to study how to improve cumulative air quality impacts in southeast San Francisco. She pledged to push the SFPUC to continue the public process, and provide more specific written details on a possible mitigation package. As of press time, no further public meetings had been scheduled.

John Borg lives and works in Dogpatch. He supports efforts to improve air quality along the southeast corridor.

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FIGHTING FOR CLEAN ENERGY AND CLEAN AIR

Mayor Willie Brown and the City & County of San Francisco are fully committed to shutting down the old, inefficient and polluting sources of electricity generation in San Francisco, starting with the Hunters Point Power Plant. If the City had sole authority to shut down the Hunters Point Power Plant we'd have done it long ago, but unfortunately this can only be done with the cooperation of a host of State and Federal agencies - and most significantly, the California Independent System Operator (ISO).

Last year power plants at Potrero and Hunters Point produced 295 tons of smog-causing emissions and 42 tons of soot. If we close the Hunters Point plant and reduce the need for operating the plants at Potrero, it would improve air quality right away. Yet at the same time, we need to avoid dangerous blackouts, or shift our energy dependence onto dirtier sources of power production.

The Environment Department and the SFPUC took these concerns to the public as part of a community planning process. The concerns were weighed, balanced, and factored into the Electricity Resource Plan for San Francisco that was eventually approved by the Board of Supervisors. The plan shows how San Francisco can meet its energy needs without Hunters Point Power Plant. Instead, we would turn to energy efficiency measures, developing renewable sources of energy (from solar to tidal power), transmission upgrades, and by using new small power plants to replace the old. These projects will also lessen the need to use the power plants at Potrero and hasten their retirement.

The City is doing its part.

- Last year our Power Savers program reduced 6 megawatts of energy consumption (enough to power 6,000 homes) by providing lighting retrofits for San Francisco's small businesses.
- We are now embarking on a joint project with PG&E to save another 16 megawatts by 2005.
- Work is already underway to beef up transmission lines coming into the City from San Mateo County.
- We put 5,000 solar panels on top of the Moscone Convention Center and are embarking on a similar project at the Southeast wastewater treatment plant.

Unfortunately, the ISO will not allow us to close Hunters Point Power Plant based only on our renewables, energy efficiency, and transmission upgrades. But when we add into the mix a batch of small, clean technology power generating units that would operate only when needed, it's a different story.

That's why the City is proposing locating four of these units along existing power supply lines. If we do, we believe that this will be sufficient for the ISO to let us shut down the old plant for good and prevent another larger, merchant power plant from being built at Potrero. And there's more good news: The new units are a great deal cleaner than the old, which will immediately improve the quality of air in the City's Southeast. And that's something that's really worth fighting for.

Jared Blumenfeld
Director, Department of the Environment

Ed Smeloff
Assistant General Manager for Power Policy, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

The Potrero Hill Association of Merchants and Businesses
and the Potrero Hill Archives Project
invite you to

A Month on Potrero Hill

— Community events all October long! —



Looking northeast from Carolina Street near 20th Street. Photo courtesy of the Greg Gaar Collection. Scanned by Potrero Hill's Digital Pond.

The 4th Annual Potrero Hill History Night

Saturday, October 18

Enola D. Maxwell Middle School of the Arts | 655 De Haro (at 18th Street)
Socialize and view exhibits from 6 p.m. | Program begins at 6:30 p.m.

At This Year's History Night:

- The ever-popular interviews with Potrero Hill old timers
- An overview of the Hill's history with Chris Carlsson, author of "Shaping San Francisco"
- Displays of historic Hill photographs and artifacts

And Other Community Events All Over the Hill This October:

Sunday, October 5

Potrero Boosters Mayoral Forum

At the Thick House, 1695 18th Street | 7 to 9 p.m.

Candidates Angela Alioto, Tom Ammiano, Matt Gonzalez, Susan Leal

Saturday, October 18

Cleanup at Enola D. Maxwell School | 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Potrero Hill Neighborhood House Festival | 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Pancake Breakfast | 9-11 a.m.

Street Festival | Music, Children's Events, Arts & Crafts, Ethnic Foods | 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

SF Community Power Cooperative Treasure Trek 2003 | 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Special offers at 20 neighborhood merchants | More info at sfpower.org or call 415 550 7155

Saturday, October 25

Farley's Halloween Pet Parade



Check out our Potrero Hill Walking Map
in the October 1 Bay Guardian!

www.potrerohill.biz



Sculptor Lori Kaye with her twin daughters and the raw material she works with.

Artist Lori Kaye Begins Residency Program at "The Dump"

Norcal Waste System's Artist in Residence Program (the only one of its kind in the nation) will host a tour on Saturday, October 18, at 12:30 p.m. to announce residency for local artist Lori Kay. The tour begins at 401 Tunnel Ave. in the Educational Learning Center, with a visit to the art studio, a walk through the Public Disposal Area and the Transfer Station and will end in the sculpture garden where work from previous artists is on permanent display.

Kay's residency ends in January and her show will be on Friday, January 9, 2004, from 5 to 9 p.m., and on Saturday, January 10, from 1 to 5 p.m. The reception is free and open to the public in the company's art studio next to 2,800 tons of trash.

The artist plans to build the tallest piece in the sculpture garden while using 3,000 pounds of scrap metal per month. Other ideas include welding an elegant, Japanese kimono, a traditional Filipina gown, a maternity dress and totem poles from garbage.

Kay welded for 17 years prior to having twin girls two years ago; while pregnant and breast feeding, she had to

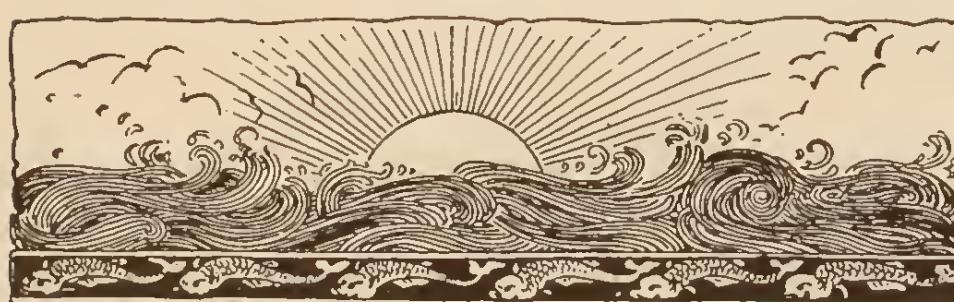
stay away from any hazardous materials and is excited to begin working again.

Lori Kay is a sculptor and mixed media artist. She received a B.A. in Art and Art History from the University of California at Santa Cruz with additional course work at the University of Geneva and Basel Gymnasium, Switzerland. She then spent a year in the foundries of Pietrasanta, Italy.

Kay is the 42nd artist in residence in the unique art and education program initiated by Norcal to inspire people to conserve natural resources.

Since 1990, 41 professional artists have completed residencies making art, not landfill. The program provides accomplished artists with unlimited access to waste materials at the company's 44-acre site, which includes the transfer station, public dump, and several recycling facilities. Artists are selected by an advisory board made up of environmentalists, former artists in residence, and educators.

From San Francisco take 101 South to 3Com Park/Tunnel Rd. Exit. Go straight 50 yards onto Beatty Rd. Turn right into parking lot.



Mayoral Candidates Respond to SFPUC Plan

Alioto

(Continued from Page 1)

have to, get rid of the Hunters Point Power Plant completely, and phase out the Potrero Plant. We need to explore new technologies that decrease fossil fuel generation and all the other contributors to dirty air. I have met with numerous experts who believe all of this can be done. I have a public power initiative that will clean up the environment and make us more self-sufficient. ■

Ammiano

(Continued from Page 1)

that the addition of peakers is absolutely necessary to close the entire Hunters Point Plant and to phase out Potrero Unit 3. Any new units sited should be directly linked to plant shutdowns with firm dates and written approval from state regulatory agencies. We need to look at other ways to solve our energy problems. I am a big supporter of renewables and looking at other solutions. We need to be fair to southeast San Francisco and find the most environmentally friendly solutions. As mayor, I would work to do that. ■

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Gardening and Composting Ecologically

The San Francisco League of Urban Gardeners (SLUG) is now accepting applications for the Fall 2003 Gardening and Composting Educator Training Program (GCETP).

This program is designed to give participants the skills to become effective educators who teach the joys and benefits of environmentally-safe gardening and composting to communities throughout San Francisco.

The GCETP program started in September and runs through December 10. Classes are held each Saturday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., with five Wednesday night sessions spread throughout the training. The course combines hands-on-work experience, lectures, discussions and local field trips. Program participants also serve a 50-hour volunteer commitment,

which allows students to apply their skills in gardening, composting and community outreach. Additionally, curriculum includes pertinent social and environmental issues such as food security, integrated pest management, alternative design principles and resource conservation.

This is an excellent opportunity to develop the skills needed to be a crucial part of the community of environmental and social justice activists in San Francisco. If interested, contact SLUG Education Department at (415)285-7584 for a course outline and application. Applications are being accepted until the class is full.

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Gonzalez

(Continued from Page 1)

Leal

(Continued from Page 1)

think we need to look at cumulative impacts to the area. If there is community opposition, then a number of supervisors will have a problem supporting the plan. I am working to promote tidal energy as an environmentally-friendly way to meet our electricity needs. The Golden Gate is among the best places in the world for tidal power generation. I am extremely confident it is a viable technology. The quicker we move on it, the faster fossil fuel power plants will be obsolete. ■

Leal

(Continued from Page 1)

combustion turbines can generate the power we need to replace these older, polluting plants. I will also push city facilities to implement additional conservation measures and increase use of renewable energy to reduce the city's demand. Finally, I will develop a specific action plan and timeline to expedite spending of voter approved solar bond monies to generate clean solar energy for our city's long-term public health and power needs. ■

Juried Exhibition At Southern Exposure

The most innovative, contemporary art being made by emerging artists in Northern California are entered in Landing, Southern Exposure's 2003 entry-free juried exhibition. For over 13 years this annual survey has been a showcase of cutting-edge artwork by promising local talent. In conjunction with Landing, Southern Exposure presents *Crash*, a one-night event of artist-made short films and videos.

A different theme for the juried exhibition is selected every year to inspire and encourage a broad level of artistic expression. The event's name, Landing, is based on a conversation among Southern Exposure's Curatorial Committee members and the exhibition juror regarding how globalization has become a complex component of our environment and space in both the art world and the Bay Area. Landing implies a sense of place and time, comings and goings, falling or rest. This theme may inspire artists to conceptualize and express their ideas of site, adaptation and survival, as well as the in-between spaces of travel and rest.

Every year, an international curator is chosen to select work for the exhibition.

Southern Exposure announces Manray Hsu as the juror for this year's exhibition. Hsu is an independent art critic and curator based in Taipei (Taiwan).

Unlike many competitions that charge a submission fee, Southern Exposure's exhibition does not require artists to pay to enter their work. The artwork is juried live, and no slides are required. The exhibition is open to any artist living in Northern California north of King City and south of the Oregon border. Artists are invited to enter one work completed in the current calendar year and there are no restrictions on media, so the artwork spans from the traditional to the experimental. All selected artists receive an honorarium.

Southern Exposure is located at 401 Alabama at 17th Street in San Francisco. The annual juried exhibition runs from October 29 through December 13. Artwork submissions are accepted Friday, October 17, noon to 7 p.m., and Saturday, October 18, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information contact Courtney Fink or Lisa Ricci at 415 863-2141 or e-mail at director@soex.org or assocdirector@soex.org.





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Protecting Your Ears

At first you may not notice any change. You simply turn up the volume on the car radio or unconsciously stand closer to people to hear them. One of the first clues that your hearing isn't as good as it used to be may come when you're at a party and can't make out what your friends are saying.

Or maybe you notice your telephone answering machine blinking with a message that was left when you were home and didn't hear the phone ring. When these sorts of experiences occur regularly, there's no denying that you have hearing loss. It's time to seek help.

Nearly 28 million Americans, or 10% of the population, have some degree of hearing loss. A major cause is age. One-third of people age 65 to 75, and half of those age 75 and older, are hard of hearing. But hearing loss isn't just a condition of advancing years. In fact, it's on the rise among people from their teens to their 40s. That's because the single biggest cause of hearing loss is also on the rise: loud music.

The world has become a noisier place in recent years, with much of the pumped-up volume coming in the form of entertainment, like the sophisticated sound systems in movie theaters, and convenience devices, such as blow dryers, leaf blowers, and snow blowers. Loud noise degrades sensory cells in the ear, cells that don't grow back and can't be replaced. And because these cells naturally deteriorate with age, the damage done by loud noise makes age-related hearing loss even worse.

More than 30 million American

children and adults are exposed to dangerously loud noise on a regular basis, according to the National Institutes of Health.

The last several years have also seen advances in the treatment of hearing loss. Hearing aids are smaller and less obtrusive than ever before, helping to erase the stigma of wearing them. New hearing aids also perform better, which makes them more helpful to working people and others with active social lives.

New forms of surgery are enabling people with profound hearing loss to hear words, music, and other sounds that, until recently, they had no hope of hearing.

The ultimate goal is to find ways to cure hearing loss and, ideally, to prevent it. The recent identification of mutations in many genes that predispose people to hearing loss was a significant step forward. Experiments with gene therapy are under way to try to prevent hearing loss.

Meanwhile, there are many things you can do now to preserve your hearing. One is to protect your ears from loud noises. Don't blast the music on your headphones. Use earplugs when operating leaf blowers, riding snowmobiles, and working with other noisy equipment.

Also, learn to recognize the signs of hearing loss and have your hearing checked regularly. Early detection and treatment is a proven way to help you make the most of the hearing you've got.

Reprinted from "Hearing Loss: A Guide to Prevention and Treatment," a special health report from Harvard Medical School.



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Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Turns 10

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts celebrates its 10th anniversary in October with "Turning Ten: An Anniversary CenterFest," a spectacular multidisciplinary arts festival highlighting ten years of commitment to the artistic development of Bay Area artists and organizations along with the highest quality of national and international artists.

The Center opened in 1993 as the cornerstone arts organization of the Yerba Buena Gardens neighborhood. In its first decade the Center has become recognized as San Francisco's premier venue for adventurous visual art, performance and film, earning a prominent place on the Bay Area cultural map.

To celebrate the community that has played such an important role in the success of the neighborhood, YBCA partners with Yerba Buena Alliance, Sony

Metreon, Yerba Buena Gardens Festival, the Yerba Buena Ice Skating and Bowling Center and Zeum to host a neighborhood celebration on Saturday, October 18, featuring a range of activities and events free to the public.

Throughout the day, the YBCA Galleries, Theater, Forum and Screening Room will be open and free, with an assortment of indoor and outdoor activities designed for visitors of all ages. In the YBCA Screening Room, "Ten Hours of Torment: A Trash Film Marathon" features ten hours of some of the worst films ever made from the bizarre and eccentric personal collection of Film/Video Curator Joel Shepard – free to enter, but pay to get out!

For more information and schedules call 978-2787 or visit www.YerbaBuenaArts.org.

The Incredible Case of Warren Billings and Tom Mooney

In 1916, San Francisco was bitterly divided over war in Europe, ethnic issues, and labor-management. On July 22 during a patriotic "Pteparedness Day" parade, a terrorist bomb exploded, killing ten bystanders and wounding 40 others. In the hysteria that followed, two labor figures, Tom Mooney and Warren Billings were arrested and charged with murder, along with several of their associates. Both were convicted, Billings being sentenced to life imprisonment, and Mooney to hang.

Shortly afterward, editor Fremont Older's *Bulletin* published evidence that the chief prosecution witness in Mooney's trial had committed perjury, and a long, hard campaign began to free both men.

San Francisco History Association members John and Lana Ralston have compiled a presentation consisting of original films, still, and text on the Billings-Mooney case, which will be featured at the Associations' meeting October 23 at Mission Dolores School Auditorium, 16th and Church Streets. Ample lighted parking is provided adjacent to the school.

Doors open at 7 p.m. with refreshments, and the meeting begins at 8 p.m. There is a \$5 admission for non-members. For more information call SFHA 750-9986.

Children's Art on Display at Academy of Sciences

Seventeen San Francisco fourth grade classrooms have lent their artwork for display at the California Academy of Sciences in honor of the Academy's 150th Anniversary. Each classroom developed a scene from a decade between the years 1850 and 2000, the last 150 years in decades on large posters for the Academy to display the month of October through early November.

The classrooms were assigned a decade to interpret from California, San Francisco and Academy history. Fourth grade classrooms were chosen because at this grade-level many students, in California schools, study California history. The rich history of these three topics are the students great choice. One example of the interplay between California and the Academy's histories is that Sarah Plummer Lemmon, was an Acad-emy botanist who successfully advocated having *Eschscholzia californica* better known as the California poppy designated as the state flower. Another, probably most recognizable to California fourth-graders, the Academy's California Hall houses the bear "Monarch" who was the last California grizzly and the model for the California State Flag. Students used these and myriads of other topics to depict their pieces.

The artwork will be on view October 4, through Sunday, November 9.



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WITH PIZZA YOU GET ICE CREAM



Students at the Enola D. Maxwell School of the Arts choose from a lunch menu of pizza and ice cream provided by the law firm of Hanson Bridgett LLP, located in downtown San Francisco. This is the second year that this firm has joined Allies for Education, a program of the San Francisco School Volunteers.

Hanson Bridgett volunteers participate in a variety of activities with the students including math and literacy tutoring, art and music projects, as well as hosting staff recognition events and Career Luncheons at the firm's office. They are also developing a Young Women's Self Esteem Project at the Maxwell school to help female students with relevant issues such as conflict resolution, careers, women's health and dress for success. The pizza and ice cream lunch was a grand kick-off for the year.

Ruth Passen photo

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www.potrerohill.biz

Measuring Air Quality on Pot Hill - Is Higher Better?

(Continued from Page 3)

and 16th streets. I may be getting a system to monitor particulate matter (e.g. carbon) for a month or two at my house at 695 Arkansas St. courtesy of the MetOne Corporation. Also, I agree that areas to the east and southeast of "the Hill" proper which have power plants adjacent to them (i.e. Dogpatch and Bayview) may well have worse air quality than the Hill itself. I just think we need to be clear about this so that we don't unfairly damage the reputation of the Hill.

The source Borg cites for his asthma data on Potrero Hill is a S.F. Dept. of Public Health report on asthma in the city published in November 2000.

The measure that is quantified in this study is asthma-related hospitalizations per 1,000 or 100,000 people. Depending on the measure, out of 21 zip codes in San Francisco, 94107 comes in at 5th, 13th, 4th, and 3rd. By the way, Pacific Heights' 94115 rates higher than Potrero Hill on some measures!

So, on the face of it, is this a cause of concern? Yes. But does it lead to the

Borg's conclusion that "Asthma hospitalization rates are highest in Hunters Point and Potrero Hill?" Well, no. Absolutely not.

Zip code 94107 covers two highly-polluted areas that are not usually thought of as "Potrero Hill." It includes a big part of SoMa that is very dense with cars, as well as Dogpatch, the immediate neighbor of the Mirant power plant. Dogpatch is pretty far from the actual Potrero Hill, even if it gets lumped in with it sometime.

All this is not to minimize the problems that might be caused by new power plants, especially to the residents of Dogpatch and Bayview Hunters Point. However, I feel it is extremely important to stop the avalanche of unfairly negative publicity about Potrero Hill that has been thrown around lately. We do live in one of the best neighborhoods in San Francisco, and it does not have high rates of air pollution or asthma relative to other San Francisco neighborhoods. Let's get the word out before the anti-power plant propaganda campaign does permanent damage to our image!

Mike Lanza lives on Arkansas Street.

Umpires Needed for Youth Softball and Baseball Teams

By Daniel L. Rumpff

The Northern California Umpires Association provides baseball and softball umpiring services to our local community high school and recreational leagues. An aging workforce and unforeseen requests for our services have created a demand for more umpires.

It's the NCUA's job to train and provide umpires for both softball and baseball. Schools and/or leagues come to us asking for umpiring services and we need to find people who can provide that service. The individuals who officiate the games get paid for their services. Acting as Independent Contractors they accept assignment from our organization to umpire a game, and the school, league or tournament director pays the umpire.

We're looking for ways to get the word out that umpires are needed. Some-

one willing to accept a little training, wear a uniform and work a flexible schedule can earn some pocket money while enjoying a baseball game.

The 2004 baseball season begins in January. Baseball umpire clinics are being scheduled for October and January. New members should get involved while their interest is high so it would be appreciated if you could help us spread the word quickly.

To prepare officials for the 2004 softball season, which traditionally begins in March, the NCUA will host a Softball Umpire School in February. We hope to make as many people as possible aware of this school. Should you have any questions about this, call me at 650-356-0909 or President Patch at 415-664-5514.

Daniel L. Rumpff is chairman of the Northern California Umpires Association Membership Recruitment Committee.

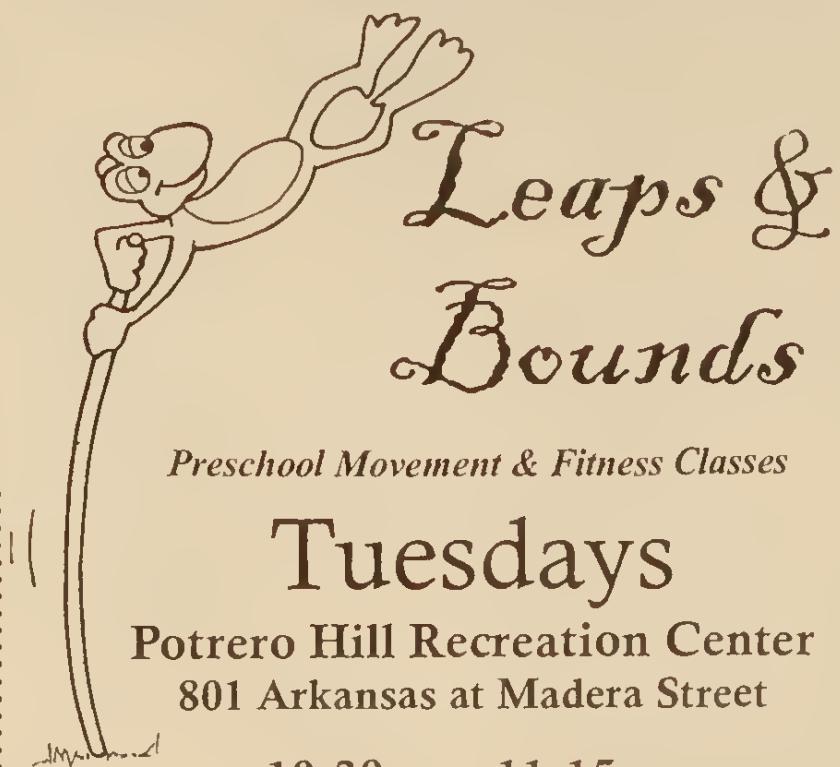


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Free Legal Guide For Seniors

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If so, *Seniors & the Law: A Guide for Maturing Californians*, the latest free consumer education guide from the State Bar of California, can help.

This consumer guide is a comprehensive guide to the rights and responsibilities of seniors in California, and the third in a series of State Bar consumer education guides. Two other publications, *Kids & the Law: An A-to-Z Guide for Parents*, and *When You Become 18: A Sur-*

vival Guide for Teenagers

on the bar's Web site, www.calbar.ca.gov

Funded primarily by a grant from the Foundation of the State Bar of California, *Seniors & the Law* is being distributed statewide via the bar's Office of Media and Information Services, senior agencies and organizations, and county law libraries. The guide is free, And available in English and in Spanish.

Copies may be ordered by e-mail addressed to barcomm@calbar.ca.gov. Please provide name, mailing address (P.O. boxes are not acceptable), number of copies wanted and in what language (English or Spanish), and a daytime phone number.

To order by regular mail, provide the above information in writing to the State Bar of California, Attn: Seniors & the Law, 180 Howard St., San Francisco, CA, 94105-1639.

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Masquerade Ball at the Metronome Ballroom

On Halloween, Friday, October 31 at 7:30 p.m., the Metronome Ballroom will present a Halloween Masquerade Ball, a fundraiser for Samba do Coracao, Brazilian dance and drumming cultural ensemble, one of the headliner contingents for the Carnaval San Francisco Parade and Festival. The evening will begin with Beginner lessons in these Latin dance styles: Cha Cha, Salsa, and Brazilian Samba from 7:30-9 p.m. Then a Latin and Brazilian dance party runs from 9 p.m.-12 a.m. with guests dressed in full Halloween costume.

Highlighting the event are a Brazilian Dance performance from Samba do Coracao (Samba from the Heart)

accompanied by live drumming and a Capoeira performance by Capoeira Mandinga. There will also be a costume contest, raffle, food, and prizes. Advanced tickets are available for \$15 at the Metronome Ballroom (415-252-9000), or \$20 at the door.

A portion of the proceeds of this Halloween event will go to Samba do Coracao to help subsidize the costs for lavish floats, specialty costumes, guest musicians and dance and drumming instruction for local schools and youth for the upcoming San Francisco Carnaval 26th Annual Parade and Festival in May 2004. Samba do Coracao (Samba from the Heart) is a Samba school as well as a performing company, offering classes and shows in Brazilian dance and percussion year round. The group, directed by Mary Dollar and Fernando de Sanjines, is dedicated to the growth of Brazilian culture in the San Francisco Bay Area, inspired by the many dances and rhythms of Brazil.



Potrero Hill Neighborhood House

953 De Haro Street, San Francisco, California 94107
(415) 826-8080

ON-GOING MEETINGS:

Al-Anon	Thursdays, 6:30 pm
Alcoholics Anonymous	Mondays & Thursdays, 8:00 pm
Narcotics Anonymous	Wednesdays, 8 pm
Omega Boys Club	Tuesdays, 7:30 pm
Employment Workshops	Fridays, 10:00 am

Board of Directors meetings are held on the third Monday of each month

FACILITIES:

Auditorium for theater presentations, lectures, weddings, workshops, and receptions
Bulletin board with employment and event listings
Gymnasium and recreational space
Meeting space rental available to community groups

All services and activities FREE

Potrero Hill Neighborhood House is wheelchair accessible. If you should need the services of a certified American Sign Language Interpreter, or a sound enhancement system, or a meeting in an alternative format, please call (415) 826-8080 at least one week prior to event. Potrero Hill Neighborhood House is a non-profit agency serving the most needy of the community with an emphasis on youth and education.



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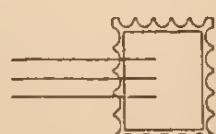
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Isolation: Major Problem for LGBT Seniors

The Human Rights Commission and the Aging and Adult Services Commission has released a joint report titled "Aging in the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender (LGBT) Communities" in San Francisco. The report documents a public hearing held by both Commissions last October in which LGBT elders, along with representatives of senior service organizations, testified as to the isolation experienced by many older members of the LGBT communities. San Francisco's already large LGBT senior population will grow phenomenally in the next few years as baby boomers age.

The commissions found that fear of being discriminated against prevents many LGBT elders from seeking help from senior service organizations. This fear, founded in decades of feeling unwelcome in mainstream organizations, can cause LGBT seniors to stay at home, resulting

in isolation, depression, ill health and death. Vera Haile, president of the Aging and Adult Services Commission, noted, "Though some senior organizations are welcoming, others have difficulty recognizing that LGBT seniors exist in the communities they serve. We want to assure that all organizations serving seniors in San Francisco are welcoming to our LGBT elder population."

The commissions also found that many laws and policies, public and private, discriminate against LGBT elders. Federal Social Security benefits, for example, allow a surviving spouse to receive benefits if a husband or wife dies, but a surviving domestic partner cannot.

The Human Rights Commission has made recommendations in the report, which can be found on the HRC's Web site at www.sfhrc.org.

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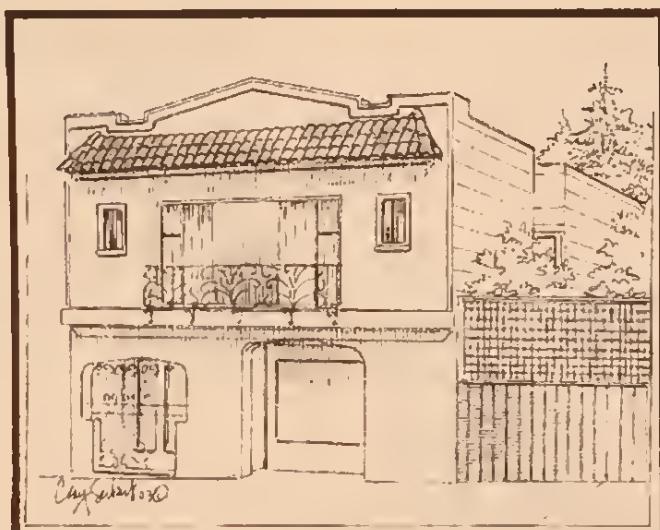
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11:00 am - 3:00 pm

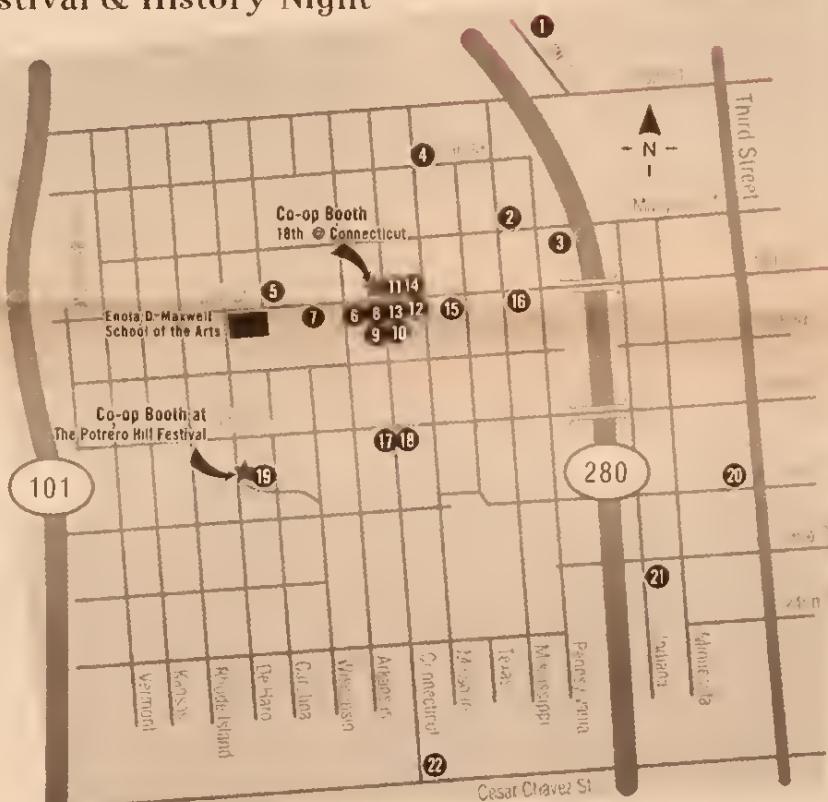
during the Potrero Hill Neighborhood Festival & History Night

Visit participating neighborhood merchants the day of the Potrero Hill Festival to get special merchant offers and great prizes that'll reduce your energy bill and brighten your day. The more stores you visit, the more stuff you'll get.

Each merchant has a terrific offer — like a FREE cup of coffee or tea at Farley's or a FREE bagel and cream cheese at Klein's Deli. Plus, you get a FREE energy-saving light bulb for each shop visited (10 maximum per SF Co-op member). Visit 5 or more merchants, and earn a torchier lamp, an occupancy sensor, or a power strip — in any combination, limit 3 per member. Don't miss the end of the day raffle for all members who trek the hill — lots of great prizes including an Energy Star refrigerator — at History night, 6:30 pm, Enola D. Maxwell School of the Arts.

Just show your membership card or ID to collect your treasure map. Not a member yet? Visit our web site or stop by our booths Oct. 18th in front of Goat Hill Pizza or at the Potrero Neighborhood House.

So lace up those sneakers, visit your friendly neighborhood merchants, and hit the road to energy savings!



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RCN, the San Francisco Exploratorium and the San Francisco Bay Guardian are also participating in the event with donated items for the raffle.

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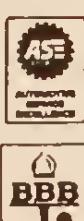
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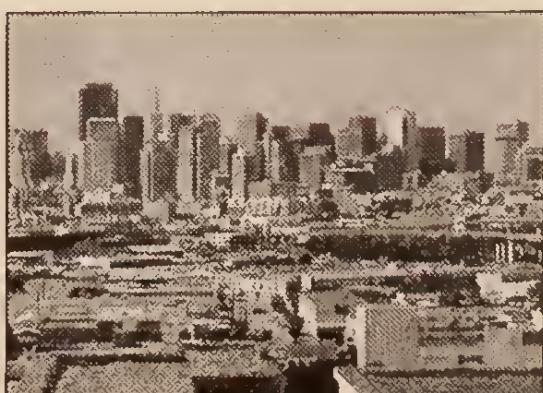
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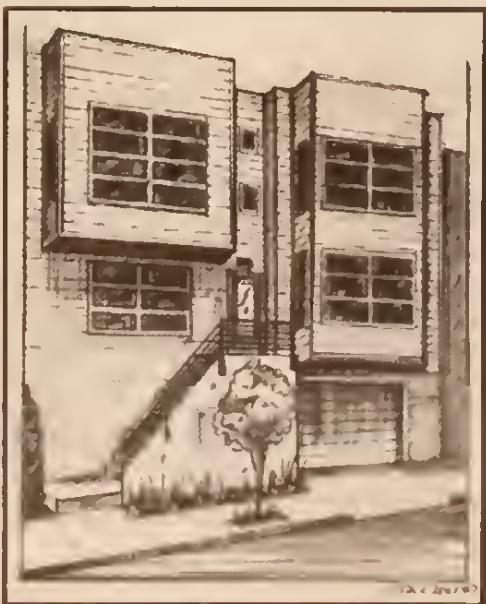
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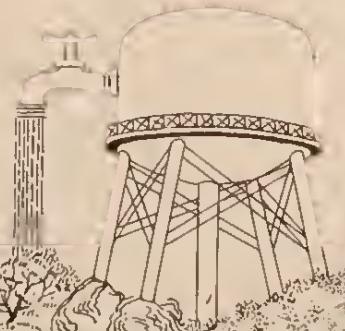


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